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Development of a Personalization and Monitor Tool for Laundry Control Boards





Miquel Tovilla Israel – UTSJR

ABSTRACT

This project is about a circuit that communicates via USB to the PC and via serial to the main board.

A hardware Interface was developed to couple the main board to USB.

A Microchip microcontroller has been used to convert serial communication to USB protocols. The code has been made in C language.

To use the PC it was required to develop an USB driver and an User Interface using LabVIEW Software.

OBJECTIVES

- Monitor parameters
- Less time downloading parameters into main board
- Have an own system

BACKGROUND

Mabe manufactures different models of washers machines. All of the washers use the same main board, with the same software. To differentiate the models the washer parameters are downloaded to the main board.

Also to diagnose the washer, it is required to monitor some of the variables that control the performance of the appliance.

To perform the previous actions they are using a serial to RS232 interface.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Function of the

Draw the PCB of the Circuit

Develop Software of

Components and Tools

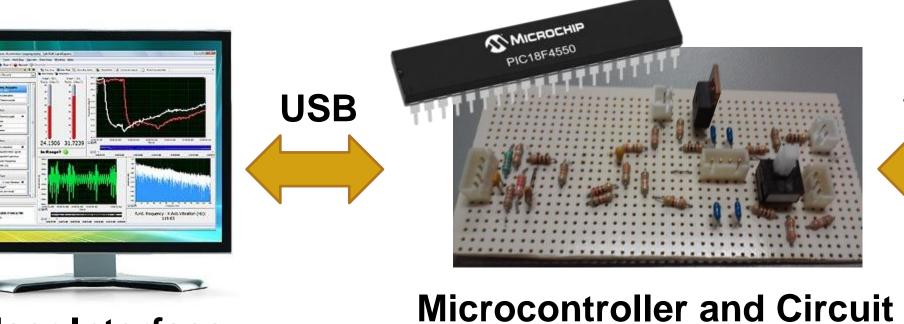
- PIC18f4550
- PICkit 3
- **USB Cable**

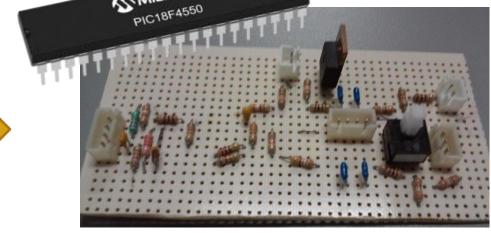
Software

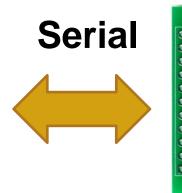
- MPLAB X XC8
- LabVIEW
- Altium

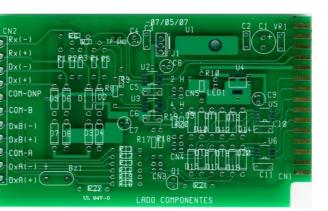
Parameters











Main Board

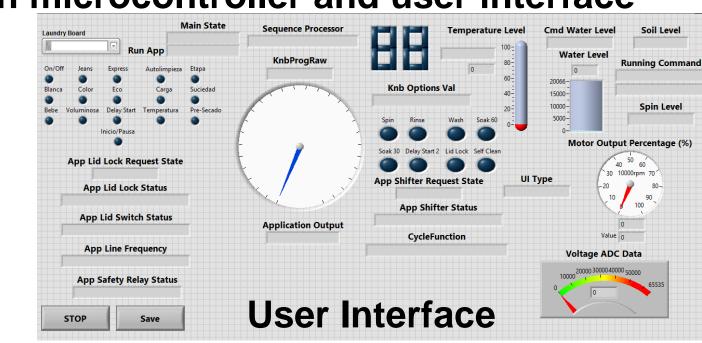
System Diagram

RESULTS

- Schematic design
- ✓ PCB design

User Interface

- **Build circuit prototype**
- Communication between main board and microcontroller
- Communication between microcontroller and user interface
- Entire communication



CONCLUSIONS

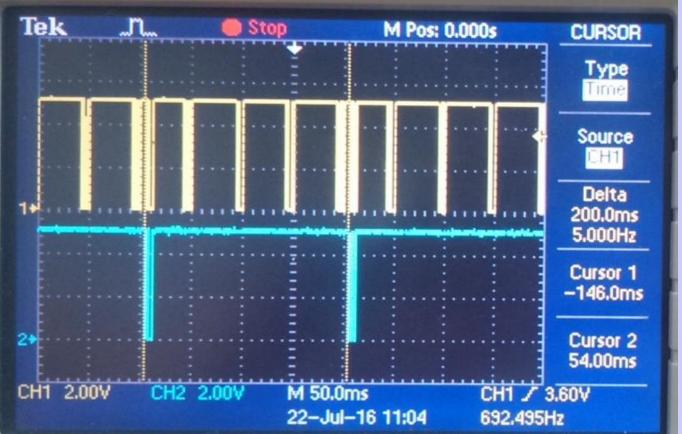
The use of a microcontroller as a bridge between mabe's serial communication and the PC will enable faster communications and will lower the failure rates.

With this tool, Mabe will be able to monitor the required appliance parameters.

This development will be open to perform updates, enabling the technology to other appliances



Mabe. Washer Machine



Signal from main boad

Signal from microcontroller

Serial communication, main board and microcontroller

REFERENCES

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National Instruments. (2016). NI Community. Retrieved July 2016, from NI Forum: http://forums.ni.com/